

STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION
of MASSACHUSETTS

E. ALBERT LINDQUIST, SECY.
41 WILDROSE AVENUE
WORCESTER, MASS.

January 26, 1951

Mr. J. P. Drumgoole, Secretary
Massachusetts Rifle Association
Box 292, Back Bay
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Drumgoole:

In regards to House Bill 467 that you wrote me about on Jan. 22nd I can now tell you that such a Bill is in the hands of the Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee and is to have a hearing on February 1, 1951 at ten o'clock.

As I understand it this bill does not prevent a target shooter from getting a permit to carry a pistol or revolver for that purpose but it does remove from Section 131 of Chapter 140 the clause stating that target shooting is a good reason for issuing such a permit.

Of course this does not change the fact that those who had the right to issue permits can still do so if they see fit but it does take away one of the reason for doing so. I think that this amendment will do a great deal of harm to the pistol shooting game, that it is not a wise one or one that is necessary since a permit could be refused to any one who in the best judgment of the police should not have one.

I believe that the pistol shooters in and around Boston should attend this hearing and be heard as to their side of the story. I have started the ball rolling from this end but find that I cannot personally attend the hearing. Why not get some of the pistol clubs to have members attend this hearing and pass the word around so that if the bill does go through the pistol shooters cannot say that they did not have their chance to speak against it.

Please let me know what action is being taken by anyone interested in going to Boston on Feb. 1st and I shall let you know of any progress made at this end.

Sincerely yours
E. Albert Lindquist
E. Albert Lindquist, Secretary

STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION
of MASSACHUSETTS

E. ALBERT LINDQUIST, SECY.
41 WILDROSE AVENUE
WORCESTER, MASS.

January 23, 1951

Mr. J. P. Drumgoole, Secretary
Massachusetts Rifle Association
Box 292, Back Bay
Boston 17, Mass.

Dear Mr. Drumgoole:

In reply to your letter of January 22, I am sorry to say that I cannot add anything to what you already know in regards to House Bill No. 467, relating to an amendment to Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws.

I have written a letter to Dr. Bill, a member of our Legislative Committee, and asked him to let me know what he can tell me of this bill and what steps he is taking in respect to it. As soon as I hear anything from that committee I shall let you know at once.

Sincerely Yours
E. Albert Lindquist

E. Albert Lindquist, Secretary
State Rifle & Pistol Association
of Massachusetts

Jan 22/51

Dear Jim:

Home bill 467 is even worse than I reported yesterday. Between lines 24 and 25 these words have been left out of the present law " "

" and the carrying of a pistol or revolver for use for target practice only shall be held to be a proper purpose aforesaid"

Between lines 33 and 34 all this has been left out

" Said form shall contain blank space to be filled in with the following information relating to the licensee and to the licensee: - name, residence or place of business, commencement and expiration date of license, reason for issuing said license, license number, date of ~~recent~~ issuance of said license, place of birth, height, weight, complexion, color of hair, color of eyes, date of naturalization if formerly an alien, and signature, of said licensee; and no further information from, or ~~or~~ act of, the said licensee shall be required" "

All this was put in at the time the law was amended to stop the practice of requiring fingerprinting. There also has been left out between 33 and 34

" The fee for each license issued under this section shall be fifty cents"

This was put in to stop some police officials from charging \$5. as reported.

The present law ~~was~~ is chapter 303 of the acts of 1936 and was laid before the governor on May 18 1936 and

MASSACHUSETTS RIFLE ASSOCIATION
WALNUT HILL, WOBURN, MASS.

May 10, 1951.

Mr. E. Albert Lindquist, Secretary,
State Rifle & Pistol Association,
41 Wildrose avenue,
Worcester 2, Mass.

Dear Secretary:

I have to inform you that, at its recent annual meeting, the Massachusetts Rifle Association voted not to reaffiliate with the State Rifle & Pistol Association.

Yours truly,

J.P. Drungoole.
Secretary.

13 person or body issuing the license, except an un-
14 naturalized person, a person who has been convicted
15 of a felony or of the unlawful use or sale of drugs or
16 a minor other than one fifteen years of age or over
17 in the employ of a bank, public utility corporation
18 or business of a similar nature whose application is
19 endorsed by his employer, issue a license to such ap-
20 plicant to carry a pistol or revolver in the common-
21 wealth or to possess therein a machine gun, if it
22 appears that he has good reason to fear an injury to
23 his person or property or for any other proper purpose,
24 and that he is a suitable person to be so licensed.
25 Such license shall be issued for a term not to exceed
26 one year, but may be for a less period, and all such
27 licenses shall be revocable at the will of the person
28 or body issuing the same, who shall forthwith send
29 written notice of such revocation to the commis-
30 sioner of public safety. Said licenses shall be issued
31 on forms furnished by said commissioner and a copy
32 of every license so issued shall within one week after
33 the granting thereof be sent to the said commissioner.
34 Whoever issues a license in violation of this section
35 shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than
36 six months nor more than two years in a jail or house
37 of correction.

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SAFETY (Room 448)
(Meets TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS at 10.30)

Senators HEDGES of Norfolk (Chairman), Clampit of Hampden, Miles of Plymouth and
Stanton of Worcester; Representatives LOMBARD of Fitchburg (House Chairman), McNamara
of Worcester, Carr of Boston, Patrone of Boston, Kitchen of Fall River, Tracy of Boston, Tynan
of Boston, Malcolm S. White of Woburn, Rawson of Newton, Miles of Boston and Marston of
Haverhill. CLERK, Mr. TYNAN of Boston.

By Mr. Hurwitz of Cohasset, petition of the Massachusetts Police Chiefs Association relative to authorizing chiefs of police or officers performing similar duties to issue licenses to carry pistols or revolvers or to possess machine guns. Military Affairs and Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-One.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING CHIEFS OF POLICE OR OFFICERS
PERFORMING SIMILAR DUTIES, HOWEVER ENTITLED, TO
ISSUE A LICENSE TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN
THE COMMONWEALTH OR TO POSSESS THEREIN A MA-
CHINE GUN.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the
same, as follows:*

1 Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as
2 amended, is hereby further amended by adding after
3 the words, "public safety" in the third line the
4 words: — chiefs of police or officers performing similar
5 duties however entitled, — so as to read as follows: —
6 *Section 131.* The justice of a court or a trial justice,
7 the board of police or mayor of a city, the selectmen
8 of a town, or the commissioner of public safety, chiefs
9 of police or officers performing similar duties, how-
10 ever entitled, or persons authorized by them, may,
11 upon the application of any person residing or having
12 a place of business within the jurisdiction of the

January 26, 1951

National Rifle Association,
1600 Rhode Island avenue,
Washington 6, D. C.

Attention: Legislative Service.

Gentlemen:

Another anti-firearms bill has been introduced into the Massachusetts legislature. This bill omits mention of two provisions of the existing bill: that target practice shall be held a proper purpose for the issuance of a license to carry, and omits mention of a fee (the present bill specifies a fee of 50 cents).

This bill also omits a paragraph which states that after the necessary description of the licensee, etc., "and no further information from or act of the said licensee shall be required". This last provision in the original bill, as amended, was to stop the practice of requiring fingerprinting.

The present law is in chapter 303 of the Acts of 1936, and became law on May 23, 1936, through the failure of the governor to sign the bill after five days.

The proposed law is House No. 467, and was introduced by Mr. Hurwitz of Cohasset, "petition of the Massachusetts Police Chiefs Association". It further amends Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws. It has been referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and Public Safety.

The Secretary of the State Rifle & Pistol Association of Massachusetts states, under date of January 23, 1951: "I am sorry to say that I cannot add anything to what you already know in regards to House bill No. 467, relative to an amendment to Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws. I have written a letter to Dr. Bill, a member of our Legislative Committee, and asked him to let me know what he can tell me of this bill and what steps he is taking in respect to it. As soon as I hear anything from that committee I shall let you know at once".

It is apparent that this bill makes the procuring of a license so difficult that an applicant will have to pay any fee a police chief may demand.

Yours truly,

J. P. Drangooce,
Secretary.

Copy to Ed. Bridgman.

STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

28 April 1951

Dear Sportsman:

The files of the State Rifle & Pistol Association of Massachusetts show that you were formerly a member but for some reason have permitted your membership to lapse. An inquiry into the reason behind lapsed memberships reveals the fact that many individuals are so pressed by personnel business that they do not have time to actively participate in the shooting game. Therefore, they see no purpose in retaining membership. I should like to point out the fallacy of this reasoning.

The State R & P Asso. is the "mouthpiece" of the individual shooter and sportsman within the state. It is the only organized association in Massachusetts that represents the sportsman of the state, per se, in combating anti-gun legislation. Obviously, the larger the membership the stronger the voice in this fight against proposals which would prove detrimental to the individual gun owner. The passage of some of these bills would ultimately require registration of all firearms, restrict purchase and use to a selected few, and prohibit ownership. Many of these bills no doubt originate with well meaning citizen who unfortunately do not understand the shooting game and, therefore, have inadvertently included improper phraseology. Others may well have been initiated by individuals whose sympathy lies elsewhere than in the United States. In either case, it is imperative that these anti-gun proposals be killed while still in the embryonic stage. We cannot sit back and be lulled into complacency with the thought that the "other fellow" will take care of it. It is our individual responsibility and duty to do everything within our power to kill these proposals which infringe on our rights as individual citizens and which might endanger the security of the nation.

The State R & P Association of Massachusetts is the medium through which your voice can be heard the quickest and the loudest.

If you agree that the above reveals a serious condition, and is one which you desire to help correct, then please fill in the application, inclose \$1.00, put in the self-addressed envelope and mail without delay.

Thanking you in advance for your interest in this matter, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

Robinson E. Bridges

ROBINSON E. BRIDGES
President, State Rifle & Pistol
Association of Massachusetts

STATE RIFLE AND PISTOL ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

ARTICLE I

Section 1 - Name. The name of this Association shall be "State Rifle And Pistol Association of Massachusetts".

Section 2 - The object of this organization shall be the encouragement of organized rifle and pistol shooting among citizens of the United States resident in our community, with a view toward a better knowledge on the part of such citizens of the safe handling and proper care of firearms, as well as improved marksmanship. It shall be our further object and purpose to forward the development of those characteristics of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

ARTICLE II

Section 1 - Individual membership in this Association shall be limited to citizens of the United States of good moral character who subscribe to the following oath of Allegiance:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands.

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States and that I am not a member of any organization or group pledged to, or working for, a program aimed at the destruction of our present system of government established by the Constitution of the United States.

Club membership in this Association shall be open to any regularly organized rifle or pistol club in Massachusetts, whose purposes and aims are not opposed to those of the Association.

Section 2 - (a) Life Membership is open to any eligible individual upon the payment of \$15.00. (b) Annual Membership is open to any eligible individual upon the payment of \$1.00 annually, or such other sum as shall be voted at an annual meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose, such membership to extend for one year from January 1, with the exception of new members who join after September 1. (c) Club membership is open to any eligible rifle or pistol club in Massachusetts upon payment of \$5.00, such membership to extend for one year from January 1.

ARTICLE III

Section 1 - The elective officers of the Association shall be a President, one Executive Vice-President, one Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, six Directors of Activities and twelve Directors-At-Large.

Section 2 - Term of Officers. (a) All officers with the exception of Directors-At-Large, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, to be selected so far as possible that the entire state be covered, and will serve for a term of one year, or until a successor is elected. (b) The normal term of Directors-At-Large shall be three years. To accomplish this at the organizational meeting, four Directors shall be elected for three years, four for two years and four for one year. Thereafter, four Directors-At-Large shall be elected at each annual meeting for a term of three years.

Section 3 - Duties of Officers. The President -- The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the officers. He shall call a special meeting of the association upon the written request of fifteen members of good standing. He shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees and shall perform all other such duties as usually pertain to this office.

Executive Vice-President -- The Executive Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence or at his request.

Vice-President -- The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the Absence of the President and Executive Vice-President.

Secretary -- The Secretary shall perform the usual duties associated with that office. He shall attend to the keeping of records of membership, publication of reports, conduct the official correspondence, attest documents, keep a correct roll of all members, with their addresses, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to his office.

Treasurer -- The Treasurer shall keep proper records of the funds of the Association, and submit them annually for audit. He shall receive the money of the Association and make all disbursements. At the option of the officers he shall give bond, the expense of which shall be paid by the Association.

Section 4 - The officers shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Association and shall have power to adopt rules and regulations for the government of the Association, not inconsistent with, or expressly forbidden by, the articles of this Constitution as may be necessary and suitable to carry out the purpose and objects of the Association.

Section 5 - The officers shall have power to fill vacancies in their own number until the next annual election. They shall also appoint an editor and all committees.

Section 6 - Quorum. Nine officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE IV

Competition

Section 1 - All competitions of the Association shall be under the general direction of the match committee consisting of the President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary and three Directors, who shall be respectively, the Director of Small Bore Activities, the Director of High Power Rifle Activities, and the Director of Pistol and Revolver Activities.

Section 2 - (a) The Director of Small Bore Activities shall have immediate control of all small bore rifle competition conducted or sponsored by the Association. (b) The director of High Power Rifle Activities shall have immediate control of all high power rifle activities conducted or sponsored by the Association. (c) The Director of Pistol & Revolver Activities shall have immediate control of all pistol and revolver competitions conducted or sponsored by the Association. (d) The Director of Muzzle Loading Activities shall have immediate control of all muzzle loading competitions and Free Rifle competitions conducted or sponsored by the Association. (e) The Director of Junior Activities shall have immediate control of all junior competition and shall, in general, promote and encourage the formation of Junior Clubs. (f) The Director of Publicity shall perform such duties as usually pertain to his office.

Section 3 - All appeals from the decisions of the Directors of Activities shall be submitted to the officers, in writing, within thirty days. Their decision by a majority vote shall be final.

Section 4 - Officers of this association, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any competition, may disbar any individual or team for cause from competing in any match for matches of the Association or those held under its jurisdiction. Such action will not be taken without giving the individual or team an opportunity to be heard. Any team or individual so disbarred shall not be eligible to compete in any competition under the jurisdiction of the Association for the remainder of the calendar year.

ARTICLE V

Annual Meetings

Section 1 - The Annual Meeting of the State Rifle and Pistol Association of Massachusetts shall be held on the first Saturday in March, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Section 2 - All Life Members of the Association, in good standing, and ~~one~~^{two} delegates from each club in good standing, shall be entitled to vote on all questions coming before the annual meeting or any special meeting of the Association, including the election of officers.

ARTICLE VI

Affiliations

Section 1 - The Association shall be affiliated with the National Rifle Association and such other organizations as may be deemed advisable by the officers.

Section 2 - Unless otherwise provided, the rules of the National Rifle Association of America shall be followed in all competitions in which a rifle, pistol or revolver is used.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1 - This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any annual meeting of the Association, or any special meeting thereof, provided due notice in writing to all members in good standing has been given.

STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

To Shooting Clubs of Massachusetts:

The next meeting of the State Rifle & Pistol Association of Massachusetts will be held at the indoor range of the Gardner Rifle & Pistol Club, Gardner Police Headquarters, Gardner, Massachusetts, Saturday November 6, - 2:30 P.M.

All shooting clubs are invited to send a delegate to this meeting.

Member clubs include about twenty-five percent of N.R.A. member clubs.

Ames Rifle & Pistol Club
Braintree Rifle & Pistol Club
Boston Rifle & Pistol Club
Lowell Marksmen's Club
Lowell Marksmen's Club Jr. Div.
Massachusetts Rifle Association
Massasoit Rifle Club
Norumbega Rifle Club
Telechron Asso. Inc. Rifle Club
Woodend Rifle Club

Parkway Rifle & Pistol Club
Quaboag Sportsman's Club R&P Section
Reading Rifle & Pistol Club
Rainbow Rifle & Pistol Club
Saugus Revolver & Rifle Club
Singletary Rod & Gun Club
Southern Berkshire Rifle Club
Sudbury Rifle & Pistol Club
Westboro Rifle & Pistol Club

Officers and Directors of the State Association Are:

President	Harold Buck	P.O. Box 53	Framingham
Exec - Vice-Pres.	Dr. J.P. Bill, M.D.	270 Commonwealth Ave.	Boston 16
Vice President	Frederick Heath	Concord Road	Sudbury
Treasurer	David C. McNeill	548 Cabot Street	Beverly
Secretary	E. Albert Lindquist	41 Wild Rose Ave.	Worcester 2
Directors	Ernest Rankin	40 Gledhill Ave.	Everett
	Chester W. Cox	33 Hopedale St.	Hopedale
	Frank Delaney		Warren
	John Laraia	365 Shrewsbury St.	Worcester
	Robert C. Smith	48 Freeman St.	Framingham
	C.R. VanTassel	30 Dellwood Rd.	Worcester
	Horace E. Westgate	13 Rockland St.	Brockton
	Elmer C. Lindquist	41 Wild Rose Ave.	Worcester 2
	Leslie Porter		Commington
Small Bore	Frank C. Crooker	15 Ruggles St.	Westboro
Rifle & Pistol	George A. Bamford	116 Riverway	Boston 15

Business of meeting-

- (a) Discussion of Rhode Island - Connecticut - Massachusetts plans and program for resumption of "Tri-State" rifle matches. We want a strong team of Mass. riflemen. Better send delegate empowered to join officially and help discuss team membership and other related matters.
- (b) Director Bamford will propose plan for Association meets and shoot off for winter revolver and pistol activities.
- (c) Director Crooker will discuss plans for gallery championship shoot.
- (d) Official State Association medals.
- (e) Shelburn Falls. Oct. 10th resume of the first State Association Shoot.

We are growing. Join up at this meeting. Lets have fun.

E. ALBERT LINDQUIST, SECRETARY

This notice is for your clubs bulletin board and your members information. It is not intended for your personal copy.